

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 KUWAIT 02247 030959Z

43

ACTION NEA-16

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-20 SP-03 NSC-07 CIAE-00 DODE-00

INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-04 RSC-01 USIA-15 PRS-01 AID-20

DRC-01 /099 W

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R 030925Z JUN 74

FM AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9797

INFO AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

USINT DAMASCUS

AMEMBASSY MANAMA

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

C O N F I D E N T I A L KUWAIT 2247

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PINS, LE

SUBJECT: LEBANESE PM AND PLO CHAIRMAN ARAFAT VISIT KUWAIT

REF: A. BEIRUT 6082 B. KUWAIT 2074

1. LEBANESE PRIME MINISTER TAQI AL-DIN AL-SULH, FOREIGN MINISTER FUAD NAFFA, AND DELEGATION VISITED KUWAIT MAY 28-30 AND WERE WARMLY RECEIVED.

2. PLO CHAIRMAN YASSER ARAFAT AND PLO EXECUTIVE COMMITTEEMAN KHALED AL-HASSAN ARRIVED SAME DAY; ABU MAZIN AND ABU DAUD WERE ALREADY IN KUWAIT. ARAFAT HAD REPORTEDLY HAD MEETINGS WITH SYRIAN PRESIDENT ASSAD AND SOVIET FOREIGN MINISTER GROMYKO EARLIER SAME DAY IN DAMASCUS.

3. PM SULH AND PLO LEADERS HAD SEPARATE MEETINGS MAY 29 WITH AMIR, THEN PM MET CP/PM JABER AL-AHMAD AND OTHER MINISTERS; PLO GROUP MET FONMIN SABAH AL-AHMAD. PRESS REPORTED THAT LEBANESE PM AND FM MET ARAFAT AND GOK FONMIN LATER IN DAY TO DISCUSS  
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PAGE 02 KUWAIT 02247 030959Z

SITUATION IN SOUTHERN LEBANON AND "ISRAELI THREATS TO SOUTH

LEBANON." GOK MIN DEF SHAIKH SAAD REPORTEDLY DISCUSSED LEBANON'S DEFENSE PLANS DURING CALL ON LEBANESE PM IN EVENING. OTHER MEMBERS OF LEBANESE DEL CALLED AT KUWAIT FUND HEADQUARTERS TO DISCUSS POSSIBLE FINANCING OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS IN LEBANON.

4. KUWAITI-LEBANESE JOINT COMMUNIQUE ISSUED MAY 31 HELD NO SURPRISES, BUT STRESSED COOPERATION AND STUDY OF DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS IN LEBANON IN WHICH BOTH COUNTRIES MIGHT PARTICIPATE.

5. COMMENT: SINCE GOK HAD ALREADY PROVIDED THREE MILLION DOLLARS WORTH OF ASSISTANCE TO LEBANON BEFORE DELEGATION'S ARRIVAL (REF B), KUWAITIS STRESSED DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE FROM KUWAIT FUND. INCIDENTALLY, MEMBER OF LEBANESE DEL SAID SULH OBTAINED ABOUT 150 MILLION LEBANESE POUNDS ASSISTANCE FROM ABU DHABI FOR LITANI PROJECT AND GOT PROMISES TO LOOK INTO OTHER DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS IN LEBANON. WE HAVE NO CONFIRMATION OF REPORTS THAT KUWAIT AGREED PROVIDE FRENCH AIR DEFENSE SYSTEM FOR SOUTHERN LEBANON AS INDICATED IN PRESS.

6. RE ARAFAT'S VISIT, "OFFICIAL" EXPLANATION ACCORDING TO PRESS IS THAT HE CAME TO CONSULT LEADING MEMBERS OF KUWAIT'S PALESTINIAN COMMUNITY IN PREPARATION FOR PALESTINE NATIONAL COUNCIL MEETING IN CAIRO. SPECULATION RE REAL REASON WAS THAT IT CONCERNED LEBANON'S EFFORTS TO REDUCE LEBANESE-BASED COMMANDO OPERATIONS AGAINST ISRAEL.  
MCCLELLAND

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## Message Attributes

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**To:** STATE  
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